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AUTHOR	Morgan, Nancy Battista
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ABSTRACT

Based on developmentally appropriate practices, research, NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children) standards, and Head Start guidelines, the Teaching Your Young Child Series is a videotape and print parent curriculum that gives parents the skills to help their children be more successful in school. The curriculum, intended for parents of preschoolers, Head Start children, and first and second graders, can be used as part of parent education workshops or by parents at home. Each curriculum section contains a videotape, a leader's guide, and parent handouts. This document contains two sections of that curriculum: "Play To Learn" and "Steps to Reading." The 22-minute "Play To Learn" videotape is presented in four parts: (1) "Exploring Together," enhancing concept development; (2) "How Things Work," focusing on critical thinking; (3) "Developing Physically"; and (4) "Social Skills." The tape shows simple, engaging activities at home, in the library, and on the playground that can help children rely on their imaginations and on their ability to solve problems in play situations. The 22-minute "Steps to Reading" videotape is presented in four parts: (1) "The Early Years"; (2) "Listening and Speaking"; (3) "Reading"; and (4) "Writing." The tape encourages parents to envelop young children in activities to foster language development, explains speaking and listening as stepping stones to reading, includes footage of children reading with parents and relatives, and shows parents what they should expect from children's writing and how they can encourage growth. The accompanying guides include instructions for the leader, parent handouts to guide videotape viewing, print and Internet resources for parents, a list of recommended picture books, and tips for increasing parental involvement. (KB)

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